

Juduser

From: [REDACTED]
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To: JudTestimony
Subject: Testimony on Juvenile Justice Bills

WRITTEN TESTIMONY Supporting S.B. 387 and Opposing S.B. 365, S.B. 388, S.B. 5418, S.B. 392, H.B. 5417, S.B. 16, and S.B. 386

March 14, 2022

Chairs Winfield and Stafstrom, Vice Chairs Flexer and Blumenthal, Ranking Members Kissel and Fishbein and distinguished members of the Judiciary Committee:

My name is Andrew Osmun. I am a resident of New Haven. On August 2, 2019, two young men, one a juvenile, entered the house I live in and held my wife and I at gunpoint. They demanded wallets, keys, and then left the house stealing my wife's car and attempting to steal mine. The police chased the two who crashed the car and after a chase and search on foot one of the two was apprehended.

Recently we learned that the second individual has been identified through a DNA match.

I do not support getting harder on juveniles who commit crimes such as I experienced. What I support is the perspective in S.B. 387 because it seeks to address how to restore the lives of juveniles, not just punish them more severely and thereby make it more difficult to return to society and become contributing citizens. What is needed are the services to often lacking in the experience of these juveniles growing up in difficult circumstances. I do not gain by destroying the chance for a productive life. I gain by a process of restorative justice that gives them a hope and a future.

Andrew Osmun.